

February 16th, 2019

Dear Castlemont & OEA educators,

We the undersigned are charter school educators from Leadership Public Schools Oakland R&D, which shares the campus of Castlemont High School, and together serve the community of East Oakland. We are writing this letter to proudly declare our support for you in the fight for a fair contract and adequate resources for the quality education our Oakland community deserves.

As public educators in Oakland, we understand on a fundamental level the necessity of smaller class sizes to deliver effective, quality instruction. We recognize the need for increased staffing for nurses, mental health counselors, speech pathologists, and other support roles and agree that these are absolutely essential to address student needs. We resonate on a personal level to the demand for fair compensation so that we can continue to live and serve in the Bay Area as the price of housing and living continue to skyrocket.

Above all, we believe it is our duty as educators who share this campus and serve this community to be in solidarity with you in your fight for greater support and accountability from the Oakland Unified School District. We believe the current moment is critical in the fight for quality and equitable education across the country. We recognize that we as charter school educators are in a unique position to raise our voices and demonstrate with our actions that we are with you in this shared struggle for the changes we know are needed. It is for this reason that many of our staff will be available during the strike to help with any needs we are able to contribute to.

In Solidarity,

Andy Marshall-Buselt, Special Education Teacher  
Phylisha Nelson, Counselor & Castlemont Alumna, Class of 2006  
Abel Acosta, Math & Business Teacher  
Dr. Maia Steward, Biology Teacher  
LaTania Feathers, Student Ally

Yusuf Alp, Mathematics Teacher  
Aunyah Ames, Student Support Coordinator  
Hyoshin Clarke, Campus Coordinator  
Estefani Contreras, Instructional Assistant & LPS Alumna, Class of 2011

Desiree Cook, English Teacher  
Alyssa Cortez, Ethnic Studies Teacher  
Dominique Creer, Special Education Teacher  
Jose Cuevas, Spanish Teacher  
Scotty Fung, Mathematics Teacher  
Kevin Jia, US History Teacher  
Kokou Katamani, School Technology Coordinator  
Tajinder Kaur, College Counselor  
Anne Keller, History Teacher  
Sarah Klyap, Physics & AP Computer Science Teacher  
Trish Liguori, English Language Development Teacher  
Monica Medrano, English Teacher & LPS Alumna, Class of 2014  
Coco Mendoza, Spanish Teacher  
Brooke Noble, Campus Coordinator  
Jovel Queirolo, Chemistry Teacher  
Caroline Raffanti, Special Education Teacher  
Kelsey Rogoff, Government & Economics Teacher  
Daniel Romo, Math & Reading Teacher & LPS Alumnus, Class of 2014  
Brya Sablan, Mental Health Counselor  
Jessica Sanchez, College Course Facilitator & LPS Alumna, Class of 2014  
Elena Torres, Newcomer Student Ally  
Dave Warnke, Art Teacher  
Chip Weber, Mathematics Teacher  
Ariadne Yulo, English Teacher